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International Search Conference on

Governance, Financing and Quality Assurance of Higher Education in China and Switzerland

17th - 18th April 2007 in Zurich, Switzerland

Hosted by ETH Zurich



CONFERENCE PROGRAMME



The aim of this Search Conference is to create a conversation space for researchers, working in the field of higher education, to meet and to identify current and future issues – regarding governance, quality and financing of higher education – which might impact on the quality and contributions of higher education to the overall development of the country.

This discussion and ensuing list of issues could be used to inform the general public and interested academics on the potential challenges confronting the higher education sector in the coming decade. It will also form the background knowledge for different joint research projects between Chinese and Swiss research groups in 2007.

This Search Conference is part of a larger cooperation project on higher education coordinated by the Directorate for Education of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) to “initiate a long term collaboration and dialogue between Chinese and Swiss Higher Education institutions (HEIs) and national agencies on policy issues of mutual interests in the domain of governance, with a special focus on financing and quality assurance in education”. This cooperation project was approved by the Swiss State Secretariat for Education and Research in 2004.

Dates: Tuesday, 17th April 2007, 09:00 – 18:15
Wednesday, 18th April 2007, 09:00 – 16:05

Location: ETH Zurich, Room: Semper Aula

Organisers: Organised by CSEND (Centre for Socio-Eco-Nomic Development) and ETH Zurich (Federal Institute of Technology, Zurich) under the auspices of the SER (State Secretariat for Education and Research) and the OECD (Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development).

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Tuesday, 17th April 2007

Registration & Introduction	08:15–09:00	Arrival & Registration	
	09:00-09:30	Welcome & Opening Addresses	Prof. Gerhard Schmitt, Vice-President, ETH Zurich; Dr. Gérard Escher, Vice Director, SER ; Mr. Bernard Hugonnier, Deputy Director, Directorate for Education, OECD
	09:30-09:45	Keynote Remarks on the Conference Themes	Dr. Sybille Reichert, Conference Chairperson, Consultant for Policy and Strategy Development in Higher Education
	09:45-10:00	Introducing the Sino-Swiss project on "Policy Dialogue on Financing Higher Education and Sustaining the Quality of Mass Education for Lifelong Learning"	Mr. Ian Whitman, Head Programme for Cooperation with Non Member Economies, Directorate for Education, OECD
1st Topic: Governance of Higher Education Moderator: Prof. Ulrich Teichler, INCHER, University of Kassel	10:00-10:20	Chinese Higher Education: Background of China's Higher Education Development	Prof. Wenyao Fan, Deputy Director General, NCEDR
	10:20-10:40	Governance of Swiss Universities: Policies, Structure, Principles, Key Actors and Challenges	Prof. Hans Weder, Rector, University of Zurich, President, CRUS
	10:40-11:00	Coffee Break & Informal Talks	
	11:00-11:20	Governance of Chinese Higher Education: Opportunities, Challenges and Achievements	Prof. Xiuwen Yang, Deputy Director of Administrative Office, NCEDR
	11:20-11:40	Governance of Swiss Professional Education and Universities of Applied Sciences: Policies, Structure, Principles, Key Actors and Challenges	Mr. Blaise Roulet, Member of the Board, OPET
	11:40-11:55	General Questions & Answers	Moderator: Prof. Ulrich Teichler, INCHER, University of Kassel
	11:55-12:55	Round Table Discussions on Different Scenarios of Governance of Higher Education Institutions	In 4 Round Table Groups
	12:55-14:15	Lunch at ETH Dozentenfoyer	
	14:15-14:35	Country Report by Non-Project Country on Governance of Higher Education	Prof. Hubert Lengauer, University of Klagenfurt
	14:35-14:55	Presentation & Discussion of Round Table Results	Moderator: Prof. Ulrich Teichler, INCHER, University of Kassel

2nd Topic: Quality Assurance of Higher Education Moderator: Dr. Lichia Saner-Yiu, President, CSEND	14:55-15:15	Quality Assurance in China: The Quality Assurance System of Graduate Education in China	Prof. Xuemei Ding, Deputy Dean of Graduate School, Harbin Institute of Technology
	15:15-15:35	Quality Assurance in China: Teaching Quality Assurance in China	Prof. Qixin He, Former Vice President, Beijing Foreign Studies University
	15:35-15:55	Quality Assurance in Switzerland: Policies, Mechanisms, Actors, Practices and Experiences	Dr. Rolf Heusser, Director, OAQ
	15:55-16:15	Quality Assurance at Swiss Universities of Applied Science	Dr. Andri Gieré, Head Quality Assurance and Project Support, OPET
	16:15-16:30	Country Report by Non-Project Country on Quality Assurance and Financing of Higher Education	Dr. Cliff Hancock, International Manager, Higher Education Funding Council for England
	16:30-16:50	Coffee Break & Informal Talks	
	16:50-17:50	Round Table Discussions on Different Scenarios for Quality Assurance of Higher Education	In 4 Round Table Groups
	17:50-18:10	Presentation & Discussion of Round Table Results	Moderator: Dr. Lichia Saner-Yiu, President, CSEND
	18:10 - 18:15	Closing remarks	Prof. Shitong Xi, Former Assistant to President, Shanghai Jiaotong University

Wednesday, 18th April 2007

	09:00-09:15	Recap of the Previous Day, Outlook for the Day: Key Issues	Dr. Sybille Reichert, Conference Chairperson, Consultant for Policy and Strategy Development in Higher Education
3rd Topic: Financing Higher Education Moderator: Prof. Qixin He, Former Vice President, BFS University	09:15-09:40	Discussion on Diversified Funding for Chinese Higher Education and its Implications	Prof. Luting Ma, Director, Research Division of Higher Education, NCEDR
	09:40-10:05	Financing of Higher Education in China: A Case Study on Changes in the Funding Composition at Shanghai Jiaotong University	Prof. Shitong Xi, Former Assistant to President, Shanghai Jiaotong University
	10:05-10:30	Financing of Higher Education in Switzerland: Policies, Mechanisms, Tools, Social Implications, & Risks	Prof. Andrea Schenker, University of Zurich
	10:30-10:55	Coffee Break	
	10:55-11:20	Financing Universities Applied Sciences	Dr. Andri Gieré, Head Quality Assurance and Project Support, OPET
	11:20-12:50	Round Table Discussions on Different Scenarios for Financing Higher Education	In 4 Round Table Groups
	12:50-14.15	Lunch (Sandwich Buffet)	
	14:15-14:35	Presentation & Discussion of Round Table Results	Moderator: Prof. Qixin He, Former Vice President, Beijing Foreign Studies University

Conclusion	14:35-15:35	Panel Discussion: Higher Education Landscape 2020	Chaired by Mr. Bernard Hugonnier, Deputy Director, Directorate for Education, OECD; Prof. Qixin He, Former Vice President, Beijing Foreign Studies University; Prof. Shitong Xi, Former Assistant to President, Shanghai Jiaotong University; Prof. Richard R. Ernst, Former President of ETH Research Council, Nobel Prize Laureate in Chemistry (1991); Dr. Nivardo Ischi, General Secretary, CUS
	15:35-15:45	Ways forward: Potential Policy Areas of Future Collaborative Research	Dr. Sybille Reichert, Conference Chairperson, Consultant for Policy and Strategy Development in Higher Education
	15:45-16:00	Final Remarks	Mr. Bernard Hugonnier, Deputy Director, Directorate for Education, OECD; Mr. Claudio Fischer, Head Bilateral Research Cooperation, SER

Monday, 23rd April 2007 (limited number of participants)

Building on the outcome of the preceding Search Conference, discussions will be held between the Chinese delegation and interested Swiss research partners in a Planning Workshop. Objectives of this Planning Workshop are: (1) identification of 2-3 joint research projects, (2) identification of 2-3 potential joint research teams, and (3) formulation of respective work plans and agreement on a timetable. Results and findings of these joint research projects will be presented at a follow up conference in Beijing in 2007/2008. This conference will be organised under the auspice of the China-OECD Programme by the Chinese Ministry of Education.

Workshop	8:30-11:30	Planning Workshop for Comparative Research Studies between China and Switzerland	In Research Teams
	11:30-12:00	Review & Group Exchanges	Moderator: Dr. Lichia Saner-Yiu, President, CSEND